



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - Public distribution

**Date:** 2/3/2009

**GAIN Report Number:** MX9003

## Mexico

### Agricultural Situation

# Instructions for the Entry of Paddy Rice into Mexico 2009

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**Report Highlights:**

As of January 21, 2009, U.S. rice exports to Mexico must be treated with methyl bromide in order to enter Mexico due to concerns over *Tilletia barclayana* (false smut). This report explains the official process U.S. exporters must go through in order to export paddy rice to Mexico.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Annual Report  
Mexico City [MX1]  
[MX]

**Introduction:** This report highlights new requirements for the import of paddy rice from the United States to Mexico. Communication of these new requirements was sent to border officials on January 21, 2009.

**Instructions for Paddy Rice to Enter Mexico:**

All shipments must comply with requirements from NOM-028-FITO, considering the following conditions:

- a) If during the inspection process of paddy rice at the point of entry, the presence of *Tilletia barclayana* is not detected, the inspection process will continue in accordance with NOM-028-FITO-1995. The shipment will be fumigated as set out in paragraph 4.3 of the NOM, based on the Treatment T302 (d1) of methyl bromide to normal atmospheric pressure in a chamber and/or plastic cover. This condition is established as compulsory from recurring detections of *Tilletia barclayana* in rice shipments from the United States, which comply with this section.
- b) If during the inspection process of paddy rice at the point of entry, the presence of *Tilletia barclayana* is detected, the importer may choose to return the product or enter the rice into the country fulfilling the phytosanitary measures described below:
  1. Shipments must be fumigated in a stationary manner with methyl bromide at doses 96 g/m<sup>3</sup> for 24 hours, at least, when the temperature is equal to or greater than 16C. When the temperatures are below 16C, methyl bromide must be applied at doses of 120 g/m<sup>3</sup> for a minimum of 24 hours.
  2. Fumigation should be done at the point of entry to Mexico, in hoppers, chambers, or containers that have hermetic conditions. When the rice enters by sea, it may be fumigated in vessel chambers, or silos located inside the fiscal trade zone (Recinto Fiscal), and the staff located at the point of entry must receive prior authorization; once it is verified that the silo offers the appropriate conditions for the implementation of the phytosanitary treatment.
  3. After the fumigation, and to prevent grain leakage during transportation, the grain shipments must remain sealed air-tight during the journey from the point of entry into Mexico to the processing plant.

**For More Information:**

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**Internet Connections:**

FAS Web Site: <http://www.fas.usda.gov>

**Useful Mexican Web Sites:**

Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at [www.sagarpa.gob.mx](http://www.sagarpa.gob.mx) and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at [www.se.gob.mx](http://www.se.gob.mx).

**Relevant Reports Submitted by FAS/Mexico City:**

MX8072 October Update on Grain & Feed

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200810/146306303.doc>

MX8064 September Update on Grain & Feed

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200810/146295996.doc>

MX8058 August Update on Grain & Feed

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200809/146295706.doc>

MX8017 Annual Grain & Feed Report

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200803/146293969.doc>